BUREAU OF SURFACE AND MINERAL RESOURCES

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IDAHO OIL AND GAS CONSERVATION COMMISSION

C. L. "Butch" Otter, Governor Ben Ysursa, Secretary of State Lawrence G. Wasden, Attorney General Donna M. Jones, State Controller Tom Luna, Sup't of Public Instruction

GEORGE B. BACON, DIRECTOR
EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

The Oil and Gas Conservation Commission's duties are to prevent waste of oil and gas, protect correlative rights, protect fresh waters from pollution, and enforce all other oil and gas development requirements in the Oil and Gas Conservation Act. If a conflict occurs, the duty to prevent waste is paramount. The Commission is given sole authority over the conservation of oil and gas. Under this broad authority, the Commission does the following:

- Regulates oil and gas well drilling and construction standards
- Regulates well treatment practices, including hydraulic fracturing
- Coordinates with the Idaho Department of Water Resources and the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality to ensure water resources are adequately protected
- Determines proper well spacing
- Reviews requests for directional drilling
- Evaluates unitization agreements
- Collects a 0.5% severance tax on all production

Many other issues regarding gas development have been brought to the attention of the Commission, but these issues are outside the Commission's authority. Other state and local agencies are responsible for addressing these issues. Those agencies and the issues they address are as follows:

- Idaho Department of Environmental Quality; air quality permitting, noncompliance with surface or ground water quality standards
- Idaho Department of Fish and Game; sage grouse and other wildlife concerns
- Office of Species Conservation; sage grouse and other candidate or protected species
- Idaho Department of Water Resources; water rights needed and conjunctive management
- Public Utilities Commission; pipeline construction
- Idaho State Tax Commission; collects a 2% severance tax and performs audits
- Payette County; land use planning, conditional use permits, noise and light concerns, traffic, hours of operation, emergency response
- Payette County Road and Bridge; road maintenance and road construction standards